



COL. KATHIE CLOSE
377th Air Base Wing commander

Expertise in electronics appreciated

Please pass on this appreciation for the gentleman who does outstanding work in electronics at the BX. His name is Tim Johnson. Whenever I have a technical question, I seek him out because it's obvious he has done his research and knows the equipment. He is far superior to anyone at the other ma-

FORUM

kirtlandcc.forum@kirtland.af.mil, 846-4240

jor electronics stores in town, and I go to him first. He is truly a leader on Kirtland AFB!

Thank you for taking the time to recognize Tim Johnson. He is truly a valuable member of TEAM KIRTLAND.

Emissions certificate unnecessary

I am a retired Air Force officer with an Edgewood address, and I work on base. When I first registered my car in Edgewood, I found that, even though Bernalillo County did not require me to have a current emissions certificate, Kirtland AFB did. The explanation at the time was that, even though no one else living outside Bernalillo County and working within it had to have an auto emissions certificate, the base was going above and beyond to be a good neighbor. OK. Like it or not, in the interest of keeping the air clean and getting a base decal, I complied. I had my car emissions tested, it readily passed, and I'm not required by the county to have it done again

for another year. My current decal is now expiring. When I went to get it renewed, I was told that I had to have an emissions test done within the last 90 days. This is absurd. If I meet the county's requirements for emissions standards (which, presumably, is the standard to which Kirtland holds itself accountable), why the artificial 90-day requirement?

Thank you for bringing this to our attention and we apologize for any inconvenience you experienced. As a result of your FORUM question, we reviewed our procedures and found that we were in error. You should have been issued a replacement decal valid through the end of your valid emissions test period. We will ensure our personnel are aware of the proper procedures to eliminate a similar situation. As a reminder for our readers, federal law requires military installations to comply with and enforce local emissions test requirements for all personnel who elect to register their vehicles on the installation. This applies even if personnel do not reside in the local area.

Contacting Forum

We want your suggestions and comments concerning Kirtland AFB. Give base agencies or the chain of command the chance to resolve your concern before calling Forum. Callers' names won't be printed.

Write:

377th ABW/CC Forum
2000 Wyoming SE
Kirtland AFB NM 87117.

Customer service

Chapel, 846-5691
CE 24-hour Help Desk, 846-8222
Commissary, 846-9586
Computer help, 846-5926
Energy wasting, 846-4633
Exchange Service, 266-9887
Family Services, 846-0741
Finance, 846-8045, 846-6639
Law Enforcement Desk, 846-7926, 846-7913
Legal Services, 846-4217
Medical Clinic, 846-3406
Services Squadron, 853-7679

Bicycle riders under security forces scrutiny

Within the past month Kirtland AFB has witnessed an accident involving a bicycle and a motor vehicle, which resulted with an injured bicyclist. The base populace has also voiced several concerns of bicyclists and their safety habits.

The 377th Security Forces Squadron, along with 377th Air Base Wing Safety, will increase patrol coverage of the base to ensure compliance with Air Force guidelines. Citations will be issued to bicyclists that do not comply with Kirtland AFB Instruction 31-204, Supplement 1 as listed below:

★ **Bicycle Code:** It is prohibited for any person to do any act forbidden in, or fails to perform any act required as stated below.

★ The parent of any child and the guardian of any ward shall not authorize or permit any child or ward to violate any of these provisions

★ The regulations applicable to bicycles will apply whenever a bicycle is operated on any roadway or on any path set aside for the exclusive use of a bicycle.

★ Every person riding a bicycle on a roadway shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a motor vehicle except those provisions, which by their very nature can have no application.

★ Bicycle riders or sponsors of bicycle riders who enter the base must apply for a Kirtland AFB Form 10, *Kirtland AFB Bicycle Pass*, at the pass and registration office. Use the pass in lieu of showing an identification card. At the discretion of the base security forces, a bicyclist must show a picture identification card. Attach the pass to the outer garment and ensure it is clearly visible when entering the installation.

★ **Clinging to Vehicles.** No person riding on any bicycle, coaster, roller skates, skateboard,



sled, scooter, or toy vehicle shall attach it or themselves to any other motor vehicle.

★ **Riding on Roadways and Bicycle Paths.** Bicycle operators will obey all traffic rules, not cross the centerline of the roadway and operate in a single file on the far right side of the roadway.

★ **Lights and Other Equipment on Bicycles.** Bicyclists must equip every bicycle, when in use during nighttime or reduced visibility, with a light on the front that must emit a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the front. The bicycle must also have a red reflector at the rear that is approved by the state division of motor vehicles, which is visible from 300 feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful high beams of headlights on motor vehicles. The bicyclist may also use a light emitting a red light visible for a distance of 500 feet to the rear in addition to the red reflector.

★ All personnel riding a bicycle on Kirtland AFB must wear a safety helmet with the exception of conditions contained in 4.21.4.7.3. Brightly colored or contrasting jersey, vest, or jacket must be worn as an outer garment during the day; and a reflective jersey, vest, or jacket must be worn as an outer garment at night. This includes while in military uniform.

★ Equip every bicycle with a brake that will enable the operator to make the brake wheel skid on dry, level, clean pavement.

★ Workers operating bicycles in industrial/flightline area designated as a no-hat area due to potential foreign object damage need not wear the bicycle helmet. Operators of three-wheeled bicycles are not required to wear the bicycle helmet. This exception is contained in Air Force Instruction 91-207, *The US Air Force Traffic Safety Program*.

★ **Obedience to Traffic Control Devices.** Every person operating a bicycle will obey the instructions of official devices applicable to vehicles, unless otherwise directed by a security forces member or any other person authorized to direct, control, and regulate traffic.

★ Whenever authorized signs are erected indicating that a right, left, or "U" turn is not permitted, the person operating the bicycle will not disobey the direction of any such sign, except when the person dismounts from the bicycle to make the turn. Then the person will obey the instruction applicable to pedestrians.

★ **Bicycle Riding Rules:** Comply with New Mexico Criminal and Traffic Law Manual under the New Mexico Statute Annotated covering this subject

Any questions regarding rules of the road for bicyclist, please contact Staff Sgt. Shad A. Helphinstine, 846-0352.



Col. Kathleen Close, 377th Air Base Wing commander
Ralph Francis, 377th Air Base Wing director of Public Affairs
Terry E. Walker, editor
Staff Sgt. Markus M. Maier, acting editor
Jennifer E. West, editorial assistant/writer
Airman 1st Class Erin Smith, writer

Nucleus is on the Web at www.kirtland.af.mil
E-mail articles only to 377ABW.NUCLEUS@kirtland.af.mil
Editorial: 846-4235. Submission deadline is 9 a.m. the Friday before publication. Deadlines change for holidays.

Deadlines for Advertising

Classified: Tuesday, noon call 892-9400
or observerclass@attglobal.net

Display: Friday before 5 pm, call 892-9400
or observerads@attglobal.net

Advertising/Production

Robert Lambert, advertising manager
Gina Martinez, production
Sheryl Morales, display advertising representative
Susan Saunier, accounting
Sue Grazier, classified representative
Melinda Mantilla, classified representative

Published by "The Observer," a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 377th Air Base Wing. This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the military services. Contents of *Nucleus* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force, or "The Observer," of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit or merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 377th Air Base Wing Public Affairs Office, 2000 Wyoming SE, Kirtland AFB, N.M. 87117. Photos are U.S. Air Force photos provided by the Kirtland AFB C4 Team unless otherwise noted.

Four arrested after cross burning incident

RALPH FRANCIS
377th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Four active duty members of Kirtland AFB were recently detained off base by Albuquerque Police Department personnel for charges including disorderly conduct, underage drinking and contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

They have been turned over to base authorities, and an investiga-

tion is being conducted by the Air Force Office of Special Investigations on allegations of a cross-burning and participation in supremacist activities. All individuals have been relieved of duty and restricted to base.

Cross-burning is inconsistent with Air Force Standards. The Air Force does not tolerate this type of behavior nor any kind of illegal discrimination. See related articles on this page about the legal and human ramifications of this type of activity.

Air Force does not tolerate supremacist behavior

CAPT. KIMBERLY ADAMSKI
377th Air Base Wing Military Equal Opportunity

Our world—millions of individuals—a myriad of colors, cultures, values, belief systems, backgrounds, experiences, and priorities. Our Air Force is a small snapshot of the diversity in our world. Diversity poses unique challenges, but it is also what has made our nation so successful and our Air Force the most formidable in the world. Our rich diversity is something to be valued. But not all people feel that way. Some feel we'd be better off with much less diversity or no diversity at all.

Recent incidents at Kirtland AFB indicate that our population is not unanimous in embracing diversity as something to be valued. A microcosm of our population is making a statement through their behavior of their reluctance to accept those who are different than themselves. This attitude and resulting behaviors are inconsistent with Air Force policy and are not tolerated.

We all are entitled to our own attitudes. However, we quickly cross the very thin line between personal attitudes and inappropriate behavior when we put those personal attitudes into action.

Consider that although most symbols such as Nazi Swastikas, the Aryan Fist and even the Confederate flag are not illegal, they will get you looked at! Displaying controversial, emotionally-charged symbols such as a Nazi Swastika or Confederate flag speaks hate, intolerance and oppression to a great many people. The reality is our superiors, peers and the American public will make assumptions about us based on the behaviors we exhibit, the words we utter and the symbols we display.

What conclusions would you like others to draw about you? About your Air Force?

What else will get you looked at? Membership in, or active involvement with supremacist organizations. The Ku Klux Klan, skinheads, Aryan Nation, American Nazi Party - these are but a few of the numerous established supremacist organizations. AFI 51-903, Dissident and Protest Activities, states because they are incompatible with military service, "Military personnel must reject participation in organizations that espouse supremacist causes; attempt to create illegal discrimination based on race, creed, color, sex, religion or national origin; advocate the use of force or violence; or otherwise engage in the effort to deprive individuals of their civil rights."

What constitutes active participation? Active participation links behavior to the causes, values and belief systems of supremacist organizations. Examples include but are not limited to organizing or attending rallies, meetings, demonstrations; fund raising, recruiting, training and publishing, distributing or posting printed or written material. Members who actively participate in supremacist organizations are subject to disciplinary action under Article 92 of the UCMJ. Commanders are authorized to use the full range of administrative procedures, including separation or appropriate disciplinary action against military personnel who actively participate in such groups.

What about membership? Can you be a card-carrying member of a supremacist organization? Mere membership is not considered active involvement, and is therefore not prohibited.

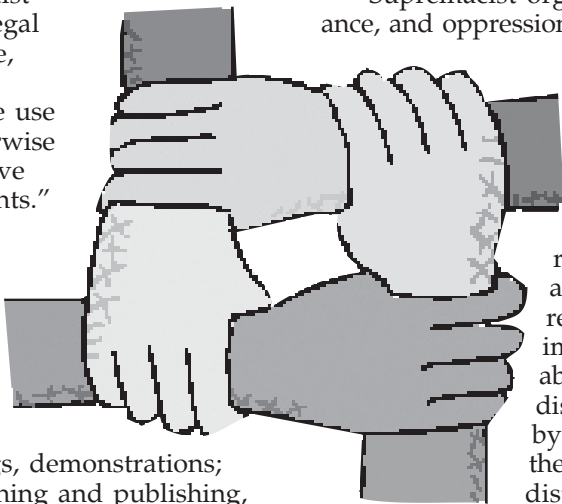
However, the instruction clearly states that leadership must consider any affiliation, including mere membership, when evaluating and/or assigning members.

Why? If membership or having literature for personal use is not prohibited, why can leadership consider it when evaluating me or assigning me to duty positions?

Supremacist organizations speak hate, intolerance, and oppression. If I know you are a card-holding member of a supremacist organization, or I know you have confederate flags displayed in your home or on your vehicle, I will likely draw the conclusion you are racist—whether you actually are or not. You must face the reality of perceptions and the impact they will have on your ability to work with others who disagree with, or feel threatened by the attitudes you hold, and the symbols or behaviors you display.

At the point racist attitudes and/or behavior begin to cause divisions among the work team and undermine the mission, mere membership in supremacist organizations or the display of supremacist and oppressive symbols must be restrained, and that is left to the discretion of the commander.

Bottom line: The Air Force is not about you or me, it's about the team's ability to defend the Constitution of the United States and our nation. Affiliation with hate groups of any kind is absolutely incompatible with military service.

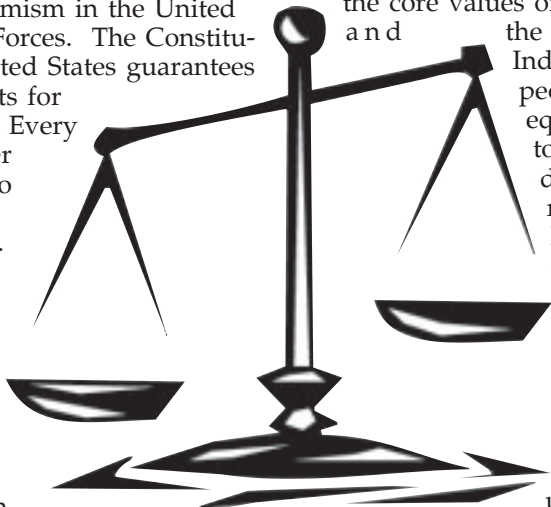


JAG Emphasizes rules on supremacist activities

LT. COL. NEIL WHITEMAN
Staff Judge Advocate, 377th Air Base Wing

There is no place for racial hatred or extremism in the United States Armed Forces. The Constitution of the United States guarantees basic civil rights for all Americans. Every service member takes an oath to support and defend the U.S. Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic. DOD and Air Force regulations prohibit military personnel from active participation in organizations that espouse supremacist causes or any effort to deprive individuals of their civil rights.

Such conduct conflicts with



the basic requirement to maintain the good order and discipline necessary to field effective fighting units. Military members are expected to conform to and support the core values of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence: all people are created equal and entitled to be treated with dignity and respect. Air Force Instruction 51-503, *Dissident and Protest Activities* (1 Feb 98) contains the following prohibitions, violations of which are punishable under Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Service members must reject participation in organizations that:

- Espouse supremacist causes
- Attempt to create illegal discrimination based on race, creed, color, gender, religion, national origin or disability
- Advocate the use of force or violence or otherwise engage in efforts to deprive individuals of their civil rights
- Advocate the use of force or threats to intimidate individuals or groups

Additionally, DOD instructions prohibit service members from engaging in the following activities associated with supremacist organizations or extremist causes:

- Participating in rallies or public demonstrations
- Recruiting or training members (including encouraging others to join)
- Conducting fund-raising activities
- Organizing or leading such a group
- Distributing literature on or off military installations

The maximum punishment

for each violation is a Dishonorable Discharge, forfeiture of all pay and allowances and confinement for two years. Although passive membership in a supremacist organization is not prohibited, it reflects extremely poor judgment and falls far below the high standards expected of all military members. Such membership could have an adverse impact on a military member's duty assignment, promotion potential, career advancement, and fitness for continued military service.

Air Force and DOD regulations clearly prohibit racial intolerance and illegal discrimination. Equal treatment, respect and trust are values that the men and women of America's Armed Forces have sacrificed their lives to defend. These values are fundamental to a just society and they are fundamental to military effectiveness. Military training stresses these principles; military effectiveness requires their observance. The Air Force has zero tolerance for violations.